

AUSTRIANS PUNISH COMMANDER

Reply Received by State Department Is Said to Have Virtually Admitted the Justice of the United States Demand on the Ancona Case

INDEMNITY PAYMENT CHIEF QUESTION NOW

Official Text of the Reply Was Received at the State Department This Morning—Despatches from London Say That Austria Has Backed Down

Washington, D. C., Dec. 31.—The official text of Austria's Ancona note was received this morning at the state department. Work of translating it from the diplomatic code will take several hours.

If the official text conforms to the press dispatch, saying that the commander of the submarine who torpedoed the steamer has been punished, virtually only one phase of the incident remains to be cleared up. That would be the payment of an indemnity for American lives, for which Austria expressed a willingness to make reparation.

Later, however, there may be exchanges between the United States and Austria on the question of submarine warfare and the necessity of a warning before attacking merchantmen.

The reply came in sections and one section had been translated before noon. The officials apparently were much gratified at the nature of it, and the danger of a break in diplomatic relations with Austria-Hungary no longer was considered imminent, officials said. However, additional correspondence was sure to ensue. Secretary Lansing declined to comment on the reply until the complete official text is before him.

The Ancona was sunk off the Tunisian coast on Nov. 7.

TWO NEW LANDINGS.

Allied Troops Sent to Orfano, Small Greek Town, and On an Island.

London, Dec. 31.—Two new landings by the allies in the near East are reported. The British have transferred some troops from Saloniki to Orfano, a small Greek port sixty miles east of Saloniki, with the intention of thus checking any possibility of a hostile advance from this quarter. The second landing was made by the French on the Greek island of Casteloro, off the southeast coast of Asia Minor, not far from the important resort of Adalia. An Athens dispatch says that the occupation of Adalia is the object of the landing. A railway runs north of Adalia and the presence there of a strong allied force would menace the communications of any hostile force operating against Egypt or the lower Tigris region.

These movements indicate that the allies' positions around Saloniki are now considered secure, and indications are that the campaign around Saloniki will develop into a long drawn warfare, as on other fronts.

DECEMBER LOSS OF BRITISH 18,549

Of That Number 1,001 Were Officers and Casualties Cover All Fronts, According to Published Lists in London.

London, Dec. 31.—The British casualties on all fronts during the month of December amount to 18,549 officers and 17,548 men, according to the published lists.

TELLS OF AIR BATTLE.

British Believe an Enemy Aeroplane Was Brought Down.

London, Dec. 31.—A British official statement issued last night reads: "Yesterday 16 of our aeroplanes bombed the Cologne station and hit the station, lines and sheds in the vicinity. Ten of our aeroplanes attacked heavily the aerodrome and did considerable damage. In both cases all the machines returned safely."

"During the day there were 12 encounters with hostile aeroplanes. One of our machines engaged four of the enemy's, one of which is believed to have been brought down. Another was damaged and all four were driven off. One of our aeroplanes was brought down as the result of a combat with two machines."

"During the night the enemy heavily shelled our trenches south of Ypres. A few German snipers entered one of our front trenches, but were immediately driven out."

CRUISER NATAL SUNK

The British Armored Vessel Went Down After an Explosion, According to an Announcement by the British Official Statement

ABOUT 300 MEN LOST. IT IS BELIEVED

This Is the Most Serious Loss the British Navy Has Sustained Since Last May, When the Triumph and the Majestic Were Torpedoed

London, Dec. 31.—The British armored cruiser Natal has sunk, after an explosion, an official announcement was made to-day.

The Natal was sunk yesterday afternoon while in harbor, as the result of an internal explosion. There are about 400 survivors.

The Natal's sinking is the severest loss the British navy has sustained for several months. No British naval vessels of importance have been sunk since May, when the Triumph and the Majestic were torpedoed in the Dardanelles. The Natal, although a powerful man of war, was laid down 11 years ago, and her displacement was only about half that of the largest British sea fighters. Her normal complement was 704 men.

KIRCHWEY SUCCEEDS WARDEN OSBORNE

No Conditions Are Attached to the Appointment—Osborne Resigned Under Pressure.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 31.—George W. Kirchwey of New York, former dean of Columbia law school, was appointed agent and warden of Sing Sing prison to-day by John B. Riley, state superintendent of prisons, to succeed Thomas Mott Osborne. No conditions are attached to the appointment.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Thomas Mott Osborne last night relinquished his duties as warden of Sing Sing prison pending determination of the indictments charging him with neglect of duty and immoral conduct. George W. Kirchwey, former dean of Columbia law school, was appointed warden during the interim.

The announcement was made by Gov. Whitman at the executive mansion immediately after George Gordon Battle, of Osborne's counsel, delivered to the governor the following letter, addressed to Superintendent of Prisons John B. Riley.

"As you are doubtless aware the deliberations of the grand jury of Westchester county have resulted in two indictments being found against me.

"It is obvious that an adequate preparation of my defense will make it necessary for me to be away from the prison for a considerable length of time. I therefore ask that I may be allowed leave of absence until the final disposition of these indictments, which I shall do all in my power to hasten.

"I therefore ask that some satisfactory person be designated to perform the duties of agent and warden during my leave of absence.

"Yours truly, "Thomas M. Osborne."

Governor Whitman said that Dr. Kirchwey would receive official notification of his appointment to-day.

The governor explained that with the granting of the request for leave of absence Osborne would have absolutely no connection with the prison, and that if he should ever be reinstated it would be necessary formally to appoint him to the position.

Up to nearly midnight Osborne had refused to resign or to ask for temporary relief from his duties. The governor notified him through his counsel that unless he relinquished his wardenship he would be removed. Shortly after midnight Mr. Battle called at the executive mansion with Osborne's letter.

LOWER COAL RATES EFFECTIVE APRIL 1

Interstate Commerce Commission Again Holds Up Tariff on Shipments to the Atlantic Seaboard.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 31.—Reductions in rates on anthracite coal from the Pennsylvania fields to the Atlantic seaboard, again postponed to-day by the interstate commerce commission, will become effective April 1, instead of Jan. 1. They were originally ordered for Oct. 1, and have been twice extended.

The commission to-day also declined to suspend the schedules of the Pennsylvania, New York Central and other trunk line railroads, which provide for a reduction in rates 20 to 25 cents in the allowance of free time or export freight.

MORE ALLIED TROOPS LANDED IN GREECE

Further reports of the landing of allied troops on the Greek coast east of Saloniki, apparently to checkmate any advance on the right flank of the Anglo-French positions there, were received to-day, Kavala being named as the point at which the British troops debarked. Advice last night said that the British put troops ashore at Orfano, 30 miles west of Kavala.

From German sources comes the report of the defeat of a Serbian army, apparently reinforced by Italians, in central Albania, the Bulgarians almost annihilating the Serbians in a three days' battle, it is declared.

Paris reported the repulse of a German hand grenade attack launched in an attempt to capture an observation post in Champagne. Comparative quiet prevailed on the remainder of the front.

The capture of 1,500 prisoners by Montenegrins in an engagement in the Sanjak, in which an Austrian detachment was wiped out, was announced in the Montenegrin official statement, as received in Paris, while Vienna reports the battle in Galicia as increasing in extent and intensity. Russia maintains a mysterious reticence concerning military operations there. London believes it certain, however, that extremely important events, the full significance of which is not yet officially disclosed, are occurring.

SCHOOL ACCOMMODATES 70.

Barre and Montpelier Suburban Residents in Berlin Get New Building.

High and dry on a knoll overlooking the valley, Berlin's new school house at the corner of Vine street and Montpelier road was dedicated with appropriate exercises this afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. Berlin does not boast of lofty campaniles, a stately postoffice or yet an imposing town hall, but it means something, nevertheless, when Berlin folks say that the structure which is to take the place of the Benjamin Falls school is the best public building in town. One story in height with two airy, well ventilated rooms spacious enough to accommodate 70 pupils, the schoolhouse has been erected at a cost of \$5,000. It has well defined dimensions of 48 and 62 feet and plans for the structure were drawn by E. A. Walker of Barre. Contractor Harry Boyer of Montpelier built the schoolhouse under the direction of a town committee composed of the selectmen, W. J. Royce, C. S. Pike and M. J. Bean, and the school commissioners, Dan A. Perry, M. J. Corliss and C. L. Slack. The site selected was the choice of the state board of health, and all ventilation, the electric light system, the heating and sewage system have been so arranged as to comply with the exacting requirements of the board. A very commodious playground takes up a large part of the schoolhouse property, consisting of more than an acre.

M. J. Corliss presided at the exercises to-day and Rev. A. W. Hewitt, pastor of the Plainfield Methodist church, and a well known legislator, was the principal speaker. Rev. Mr. Hewitt talked along educational lines. Remarks were made by W. J. Royce for the selectmen and A. L. Hewitt, father of the speaker of the day, spoke for the town. Dan A. Perry's brief talk was a response for the district. An interesting program of recitations and singing was given by the pupils of the Benjamin Falls school. Afterward ladies of Berlin served refreshments. The attendance of Berlin, Barre and Montpelier people was gratifyingly large and all commented very favorably on the appearance of the building.

Pupils will occupy the new schoolhouse for the first time Monday morning with Miss Hand of Montpelier as the teacher. Thirty-five students are to be enrolled and the number, it is expected, will increase, as the new building will naturally draw from the public schools of Barre and Montpelier pupils who have not been attending the Benjamin Falls school.

SCHMIDT GETS LIFE TERM.

Convicted of First Degree Murder in Los Angeles Times Explosion.

Los Angeles, Dec. 31.—Matthew A. Schmidt was convicted last night of first degree murder as the accomplice of James B. McNamara in the blowing up of the Los Angeles Times building here five years ago.

The specific charge was of having murdered Charles Hagerly, one of the 29 victims of the Times explosion. The jury was out 46 minutes.

The jury fixed Schmidt's punishment at imprisonment for life, the same penalty imposed on James B. McNamara after the latter had confessed in court four years ago that he placed the bomb which blew up the newspaper plant.

David Caplan, another alleged accomplice of McNamara, who was arrested last February near Seattle, shortly after Schmidt had been taken into custody in New York, is in jail awaiting trial also on the charge of charge of having murdered Charles Hagerly.

The court's charge to the jury had been regarded as distinctly favorable to the defendant and the verdict came as a surprise to Schmidt and his counsel. Schmidt, however, heard it without show of emotion.

Time for the imposition of sentence upon Schmidt was fixed for next Monday and his counsel will then interpose motion for a new trial. It was agreed that argument on this matter should be heard Jan. 12.

Nathan Caplan, Schmidt's chief counsel, said if the motion for a new trial was denied the case would be carried to the highest courts.

Glenn A. Twiss, secretary-treasurer of the California Building Trades council, declared the verdict meant industrial war. "There will be a 16 years' war in Los Angeles," he said. "They will pay for this."

"I can stand this if the county can," remarked Schmidt as he was led back to jail.

The case of David Caplan, alleged accomplice of Schmidt and McNamara, was scheduled for Jan. 2, but by stipulation last night it will be delayed until Jan. 12 to be again set for trial.

SEVEN STATES TURN "DRY"

State-Wide Prohibition Goes into Effect in Them at Midnight

3,000 SALOONS PUT OUT OF BUSINESS

Colorado People Have Been Spending Lavishly to Put in a Supply

Chicago, Dec. 31.—State-wide prohibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors becomes effective in seven states at midnight to-night, putting out of business more than 3,000 more saloons, a large number of breweries, wholesale liquor houses and distilleries. The states which enter the dry column are Iowa, Colorado, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Arkansas and South Carolina.

According to one authority between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 was spent for liquor in Colorado the past week. In Iowa bargain day sales in the saloons of the state were in progress to-day, preparatory to closing to-night. In Oregon a constitutional amendment absolutely prohibits the manufacture and sale of any kind of liquor; even the druggists are not permitted to sell on prescriptions. In Oregon and Washington, however, families will be permitted to import certain amounts for home consumption within stated periods.

STATE PROHIBITION SUPREME.

Supersedes Special City Legislation on Sale of Liquor in Colorado.

Denver, Col., Dec. 31.—On December 6, the Colorado supreme court, in an unanimous opinion written by Chief W. H. Cabbert, held the authority of the state supreme to enact and enforce state-wide prohibition and that cities operating under special charter government were without legal authority to continue traffic in intoxicating liquors after January 1, 1916. The decision was rendered in proceedings brought by the state and Denver city officials in which the court took original jurisdiction.

In effect the decision held that the enforcement of state-wide prohibition laws is included in the police powers of the commonwealth and that the constitutional prohibition amendment supercedes all authority that may have been granted Denver, or other cities under special charter government, to control through police power traffic in intoxicants.

Prior to the adoption of the constitutional amendment a large portion of northern Colorado was "dry" territory under the local option law passed in 1907. Colorado Springs, third largest city, excluded saloons, the late General William L. Palmer, who laid out much of the land upon which the city was built, having barred saloons in deeds to property.

The vote of Colorado electors Nov. 3, 1914, on the prohibition constitutional amendment was: For, 129,889; against, 118,017. Denver alone returned a "wet" majority, the figures favoring retention by approximately 10,000. George A. Carlson, an avowed adherent of the "drys," was elected governor at this time.

The ensuing legislature enacted a measure designed to enforce the prohibition amendment and to provide penalties for its violation. This law was enacted by a unanimous vote in the Senate.

The law prohibits manufacture, sale, or giving away of liquors, but provides that liquor may be secured for sacramental, private and medicinal use, under certain restrictions. Purchasers for sacramental purposes are required to pay an annual license fee of \$1. Physicians are permitted to issue only numbered prescriptions which must state the date and hour and specify the malady of the patient. The prescription must not call for more than four ounces of liquor, is not valid after 48 hours and cannot be refilled. Wholesale druggists must pay an annual license of \$100 and retail druggists \$5, to handle intoxicants. Private consumers may receive liquor through common carriers, signing receipt in the form of an affidavit showing the goods are for no other purpose than medicinal or private consumption. Each package must be labeled to indicate its contents and a fee is charged to cover the cost of filing a record of deliveries with the secretary of state, required monthly of railroads and quarters of firms handling liquor.

Violations are subject to severe penalties. First offenses are made misdemeanors carrying fines of \$100 to \$500 or a jail sentence of 30 days to six months, or both. Second or subsequent offenses within five years are made a felony, punishable by a penitentiary sentence of from one to three years for an individual, or a fine of \$1,000 to \$5,000 for corporations. Officers refusing or neglecting to enforce the law are subject to being ousted from office.

Advertising or soliciting intoxicating liquor for sale is prohibited. Any building used for illegally handling liquor is subject to being closed by the courts. Liquor, or liquor containers found on the property are to be held without property rights pending the decision of the court.

As to civil liability, the law provides that any person injured or whose property or means of support has suffered at the hands of an intoxicated person shall have the right of action against any person or firm that illegally furnished the liquor.

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EXCELLENT BANQUET OF FOREIGN MASONS

About 250 Persons Sat Down to Excellent Repast After Listening to Toasts and Then Engaged in Dancing.

In celebration of the festival of St. John, the brethren of Operative lodge, No. 150, F. and A. M., held their 20th annual supper and dance in Clan Gordon hall last evening, when the attendance filled the hall to capacity. The hall was prettily decorated in honor of the occasion with streamers, pictures and evergreen, the stage being draped with the Stars and Stripes, the Union Jack of England and the Rampant Lion of Scotland.

Seated around the tables on the platform were the president, Hugh Christie, John, the brethren of Operative lodge, No. 150, F. and A. M., held their 20th annual supper and dance in Clan Gordon hall last evening, when the attendance filled the hall to capacity. The hall was prettily decorated in honor of the occasion with streamers, pictures and evergreen, the stage being draped with the Stars and Stripes, the Union Jack of England and the Rampant Lion of Scotland.

President Christie, as chairman of the assembly, extended, in a few words, a hearty welcome in the name of and in behalf of the brethren of the Foreign lodges and introduced as the toastmaster W. E. Catto, who acted most acceptably in the presentation of the different persons participating in the lengthy program. The first toast of the evening was to the president and the craft, the next to the grand lodge of Scotland and the grand lodge of Vermont.

The toastmaster then introduced Angus McDonald, who responded with a song rendered in his well-known style. Frank R. Beard, in a happy manner, recounted the many virtues of ancient craft Masonry and told of the many beautiful edifices and monuments which have been erected throughout the world by Operative Masons since the time of Solomon, king of Israel, and he deplored the deeds of atrocity that have been committed through the ignorance of the people and the devastation of wars, where these buildings have been ruined after having taken so many years to build. Mr. Beard proposed a toast to Operative lodge, No. 150, of Aberdeen, Scotland, to which Thomas Marr replied in giving the history of the lodge since its institution and recounted the many trials that they had to pass through until they finally succeeded in owning the building in which they now hold their meetings.

Mrs. Gilbert Wood next delighted the company with her rendition of the song, "The Island of Dreams." James S. Milne, in proposing a toast to Granite lodge, No. 35, of Barre, spoke feelingly of the many kind expressions of that brotherly feeling which always has existed between the members of Granite lodge and the members of the Foreign lodges. Mahlon E. White, in response to the above toast, firmly assured the company that those feelings were reciprocal and extended the welcome to all visiting brethren to make Granite lodge their Masonic home while in Barre.

The toastmaster then called on George Troup, one of the originators of these same gatherings 26 years ago, and he sang in his happy strain, "Wait for the Turn of the Tide." There followed a series of song and story until 9:30, when the committee having in charge the banquet announced all was in readiness to proceed with the same.

The banquet being over, the floor was cleared for dancing, which commenced at 11 o'clock, music being supplied by an orchestra under the leadership of E. W. Bruce. Singing, story telling and dancing were intermixed during the remainder of the celebration. Deserving of mention was the beautiful step dancing by Miss Thompson and Mr. McDonald, also the singing of E. Tobin and George Troup.

The following committee had charge of all arrangements: Hugh Christie, Robert Patterson, Charles Leslie, Alfred Milne, William Thom, George Anderson, James Milne, William Deans, John Spence, William Grant, Alex. McCaffie, Robert Frost, George G. Walker and Henry Taylor, secretary.

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NO FORMAL AWARD YET

But Marr & Gordon Are Said to Be Assured State Contract Will Be Theirs

SIGNING HELD UP FOR GENERAL CONTRACT

Specifications for the Latter Will Be Ready Within Days

Although a state commission has decided to award the granite contract for the proposed state building in Montpelier until the general contract is let and the exact amount to be expended in construction work is determined, Marr & Gordon of Barre are assured of the contract, according to a member of the commission.

At the meeting in Montpelier yesterday afternoon, which lasted until late in the afternoon, Charles H. Robbins of Boston, a representative of the firm of Denmore & Leclair, architects, was consulted and told the board that specifications would be ready within a week or 10 days, so that bids for the general contract could be advertised.

Just when actual construction can be commenced depends wholly upon the weather conditions and if they are similar to those of last year the first of March will see the dirt begin to fly.

The general opinion seemed to prevail with the commission that the bid on the granite contract was as low as could reasonably be expected and that the \$150,000 appropriation made by the legislature will be sufficient to erect the building and furnish it complete. If work is started in two months the first delivery of granite will have to be made by the middle of April to insure no delay.

Three members of the commission, ex-Gov. W. W. Stickney, C. P. Smith and G. W. Varnum left Montpelier last evening for the city of Burlington. Gov. C. W. Gates took the morning train for his home in Franklin.

SEVERAL COMPLAINTS MADE

Concerning Conditions in Barre as Reported to C. L. U.

Several matters of major importance were discussed by the Central Labor union at its regular meeting last night, and with routine business demanding more than the usual attention, it was nearly midnight before adjournment came. Ministers of the gospel and administrators of municipal reform came in for criticism during the open forum, and committees appointed left the hall, each with some very definite instructions.

As yet, the central body is undecided as to whether a labor ticket will be put in the field for the March elections. The question will be considered more fully at the January meeting, when a mass meeting will be held, and if there is sentiment enough to warrant. Among the labor men present, the sentiment was expressed that Mayor Langley is not dealing fairly with the labor movement in general, it was said. For that reason and for others, there are those of the delegates to the C. L. U. who believe a labor ticket will be entered. The poor department was criticised, on the allegation that the overseer had failed to purchase supplies for the charity department from the union stores in Barre, and a committee was appointed to wait upon the overseer and the aldermanic charity department. Ministers of some of the city churches have not acted fairly or with discretion in connection with the clerks' lockout, it was said, and a committee was elected to confer with the clergy.

From various angles, the clerks' and merchants' situation was discussed, and much time was given over to a consideration of what was described as the inflated reports concerning the volume of business done by merchants in the Christmas season. No action was taken. It was reported that certain agencies are conspiring to keep reports, etc. from the Congressional Record, and the congressional committee was instructed to take up the grievance in correspondence with congressional committees and Vermont's representatives in the House and Senate.

Following is a list of the committees appointed for the ensuing term: Credentials, S. L. Card of the grandmasters, H. J. Houghton of the retail clerks, John Denald of the paving cutters, John S. McDonald of the police, and F. A. Hyland of the engineers; labor committee, Wesley Hoffman of the cigarmakers, Dan C. Rizzi of the clerks, John King of the quarryworkers, E. N. Philbrick of the carpenters and George W. Rock of the East Barre granitecutters; organization committee, F. W. Sullivan of the hammers and hammers, Alfred Mahall of the granitecutters, Arthur Eassey of the Graniteville engineers, L. A. Carpenter of the typographical union, and George Means of the pavingcutters; educational committee, Harry Dale of the police, Morris Wood of the Barre jumpers, Alfred Montford of the Barre engineers, J. E. Osborne of the East Barre granitecutters, and C. J. Pillsbury of the typographical union; resolutions, John S. McDonald, Cyrus E. Hall of the carpenters, F. J. Finnegan of the quarryworkers, George Baker of the typographical union, and John T. Callaghan of the retail clerks.

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